

‘A mission like this makes Canada much bigger’

— David Saint-Jacques, the next Canuck to work aboard the ISS

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IN MY BACKYARD

How would you like it if a tractor showed up behind your house and pulled the trees out?

THE STORY, metroNEWS

Bullying at west-end school escalates to swastika vandalism

ABUSE

Student says he’s been targeted for months



Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

An Ottawa family has turned to crowdfunding to pay for repairs to their car after someone carved a swastika and other crude messages into it in an apparently extreme case of high school bullying.

Laura, Jim and David Armitage came home last November to find a large swastika, a crude drawing of male genitalia and the words “Greetings b–h” scratched deep into their car.

Whoever defaced the car apparently did so in broad daylight — although no one saw who did it, and police could not lay any charges.

The damage shocked the family — but David, a student at West Carleton Secondary School, has a good idea who did it.

The teen has been bullied since the start of the school year by another student, who the family says has punched and threatened David and put him in unsafe situations in shop class.

The family says they went to the principal and the school board for help, to no avail. Laura Armitage says the family was told the student had the same right to be in the classroom as her son.

The bullying has forced David to turn to online learning to complete his final Grade 12 courses.

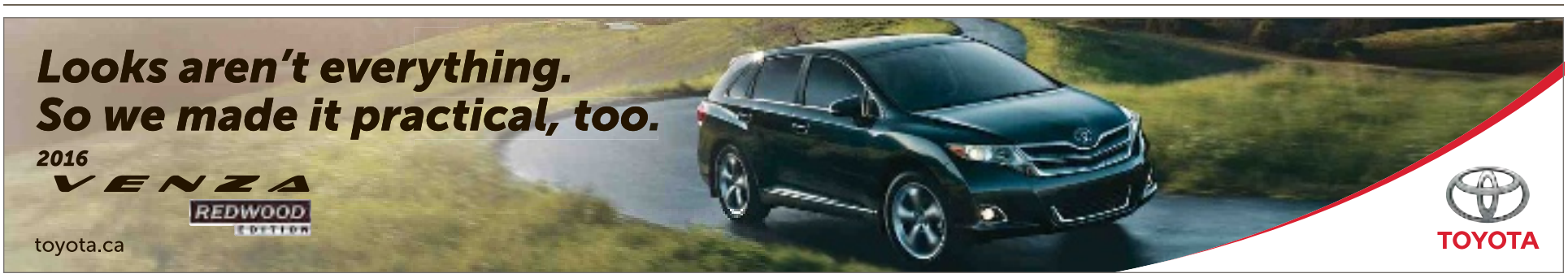
“He doesn’t get to graduate with his Grade 12 class,” said Laura Armitage. “The police can only do what they can do, but there is no excuse for the school board’s behaviour.”



‘He doesn’t get to graduate with his Grade 12 class’

On Sunday, David created a GoFundMe page to raise $2,000 to pay for the car repairs. He says he has received support from strangers in Ottawa and around the world.

EMERGENCY IN ALBERTA | Wildfire forces evacuation of camps north of Fort Mac | metroNEWS



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UN creates humanitarian fund for the education of refugee children. **World**

‘A human rights embarrassment’

JAIL OVERCROWDING

Lawyer to launch lawsuit on behalf of inmates



Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

As a province-led task force is in the middle of developing an action plan to fix overcrowding problems at the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre, one Ottawa lawyer says he is already planning a class-action lawsuit against the notorious jail for its “inhumane” treatment of inmates.

Human rights lawyer Paul Champ confirmed to Metro that an undisclosed number of former and possibly current inmates are getting behind a class-action suit over unjust punishment due to overcrowding and lockdowns — and more are being sought.

The stories he is hearing from them are of no surprise to him: inmates sleeping next to toilets in a cell shared by two other inmates, lack of access to medical care, and, more recently, inmates sleeping in damp showers have all been reported before.

“It’s a human rights embarrassment,” he said in an interview Monday.

He pointed to highly publicized individual civil suits against the province launched by Ottawa-area women Julie Bilotta and Christina Jahn that have put the jail in the spotlight in recent years, only to see its problems persist.

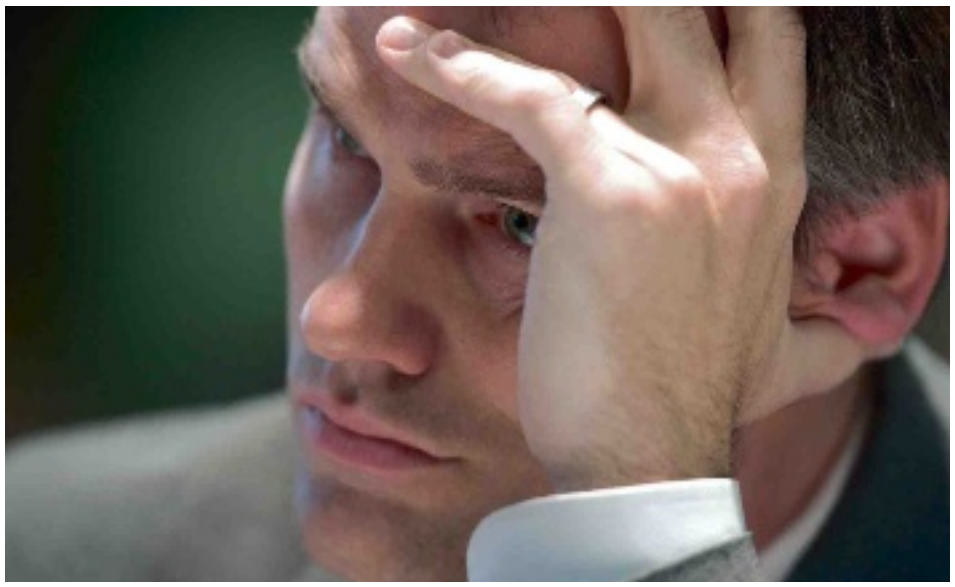
Champ said he believes a broader — and successful — class-action settlement involving multiple inmates will be the driving force behind real change.

“Having people sleep three to a cell and sleeping by a toilet while someone’s having to go to the toilet and eating in that same room for months at a time, that’s inhumane and it’s not acceptable in Canada or Ontario.”

Champ has been spearheading the case since last summer and is hoping to file the suit in about a month as talks are ongoing, he said.

THE CASE

The case could argue for inmates to be awarded compensation for being double- or triple-bunked in a cell during a lockdown on a per day basis. That could translate into the range of “tens of thousands” of dollars per inmate, he said.



Lawyer Paul Champ, seen here in 2009, said a class-action lawsuit could be the key to driving home the message to the province that conditions at the Innes Road jail need to change.
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

TECHNOLOGY

Lobby group calls for federally funded startups accelerator

A Canadian innovation lobby group is calling on the federal government to create an accelerator for start-ups that want to commercialize research and development from government scientists, engineers and technologists.

The Canadian Advanced Technology Alliance wants the facility to be built in the National Capital Region so it can benefit both the public and private sector R&D that is already happening in the area.

“Canada has a well-known commercialization gap in which R&D does not get translated into commercially viable products,” CATA chief executive John Reid said in a statement.

“There is an opportunity for the Canadian federal government to demonstrate leadership in addressing the commercialization gap through the launch of a Canadian government R&D accelerator.”

In a release issued Monday, CATA listed a number of potential benefits from having such an accelerator, including creating a technology commercialization test bed for policy makers in Canada’s public service.

The organization said the proposed facility would also be “a vote of confidence” for government scientists and a showcase for “Canadian innovation in action.”

CATA said such an accelerator would also create a core of entrepreneurs who know how to work with the government and contribute to “urban revitalization.”

Software and digital media startups would be a natural fit for the startup, CATA said, and Reid said the facility shouldn’t require a lot of federal investment to launch.

“One of the beauties of accelerators is that they typically operate on a shoestring budget,” he said.

OTTAWA BUSINESS JOURNAL



Behind Mooney's Bay Park playground

INFRASTRUCTURE

Residents and festivals frustrated by lack of notice



Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa



More than a dozen trees have been felled at the north end of Mooney's Bay Park ahead of the July construction of what is being touted as Canada's largest playground. The $2-million project has spurred the launch of a petition calling for a new location for the playground. ERIN MCCRACKEN/METROLAND MEDIA

Designed and built by kids

The city is partnering with Sinking Ship Entertainment, the producer of a TVO kids television show called Giver to build the nation's biggest playground in Mooney's Bay Park for 2017.

To celebrate Canada's 150th birthday, the 4,600-square-metre mega-playground will be Canada-themed and "mini parks" will represent each of the country's provinces.

The transformation of Mooney's Bay Park will take place over a 10-episode series.

Giver has built over 30 playgrounds over the course of the show, but none in Ottawa so far. The show features children and volunteers building a playground in their local neighbourhoods.

Six kids per episode will star in the creation of the different segments of the playground. Sinking Ship has put out a casting call at giver150.com but other local children can still take part by volunteering.

"It's a really exciting project," said producer Rennata Lopez.

"The kids are basically leading their community into making this amazing playground for their community."

Construction and filming is set to begin early July and be ready for summer 2017.

Money matters

The city said the cost of the park will be $2 million and will be split with the production company. Half, or $1 million, will come from Ottawa's city-wide park-in-lieu funding dedicated to park upgrades.

Giver has already begun a crowd-sourcing campaign to raise $150,000 in order to bring children from around the country to Ottawa to help with the build.

Not all fun and games

There's also been excitement from residents about the playground, but a petition has also garnered support from 44 residents seeking to "stop the destruction" of the neighbourhood's green space.

Residents like Michelle Groulx are concerned that the large play structure will overwhelm the park's facilities — turning the neighbouring streets into an extension of the parking lot and bringing down mature trees.

Groulx and other petition signers are upset that the plan was a surprise and didn't go through a normal consultation process.

Why no consultation?

River ward councillor Riley Brockington did not respond to an interview request.

Craig Searle, vice-president of the Riverside Park Community and Recreation Association, was told that a consultation wasn't possible because the deal with the production company was proprietary.

"We were surprised about the announcement, and caught off guard," he said.

"Parking and certainly the washrooms, which are abysmal, need to be addressed if they're going to make this a destination spot."

Searle said the city generally consults the community association and residents before changes are made. They were informed about trees being removed and an older fitness structure being replaced, but the Giver 150 project was a complete surprise.

City festivals weren't consulted either

Mooney's Bay Park is right along the large point in the Rideau River and includes one of the city's few urban beaches. It's also the host of many large festivals including the Hope Volleyball tournament and the Ottawa Dragon Boat Races.

"It was a surprise," said Holly Tarrison, organizer of the Hope Volleyball tournament.

Tarrison said it was implied in January that "something" might be taking place on the site during the summer, but she wasn't given any details. Concerned about planning the massive festival, Tarrison pushed for a meeting with the city.

Hope was informed of the project last week, but Tarrison still has concerns about setting up for the annual festival around a construction site and filming crews.

"There's a lot of 'we don't knows' and as an event planner, it's hard to plan for 25,000 people," she said.

Tarrison said she's concerned that emergency exits need to be clear and re-angling the stage could increase the noise level. Filming may also be taking place the day before the event, which means possible complications to the festival's weeklong setup schedule.

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3 shows to see at NAC Presents

Lucy Scholey
METRO OTTAWA



PHOTO: COLIN MEDLEY

1

Smaller stage: Andy Shauf
The indie folk-pop artist returns to the NAC on Dec. 8 at 8 p.m. Last time he played on the Fourth Stage, which is now temporarily closed for repairs. Catch him in the centre's Studio space for tickets as low as $25.



PHOTO: IVAN OTIS

2

Big name: Tanya Tagaq
A fierce throat-singer, the Polaris Music Prize-winning Tagaq will likely blow away the theatre on Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at $29.



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

3

Newcomers: Great Lake Swimmers/Elliott Brood
Not to outdo one another on their first NAC performance, folk rock Great Lake Swimmers will headline a show with guest Elliott Brood on Dec. 15. The next night, the three-piece alt-country band Elliott Brood is the main act with — you guessed it — Great Lake Swimmers as the guests. Both shows start at 8 p.m. and cost $42.

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NAC PRESENTS

Producer to retire after packed season



Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

After a 38-year career, it's safe to say Simone Deneau pretty much grew up at the National Arts Centre.

And now the producer of the five-year-old concert series NAC Presents is retiring with the hopes the centre will continue as a home for Canadian singer-songwriters.

"We have opportunities to grow artists, for them to start out in a smaller room and come back and play bigger and bigger rooms," she said.

Deneau's last season — the first half of which was unveiled on Tuesday — includes Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster, Ontario harmony trio the Good Lovelies and Manitoba folk-favourite Del Barber. Recently, the centre also announced Chantal Kreviazuk and Gordon Lightfoot.

In 1978, at age 18, Deneau started her first usher job at the NAC, before becoming the assistant director of patron services. Over the past five years, she has curated nearly 300 performances, including Sarah McLachlan, Hey Rosetta! A Tribe Called Red, Kellylee Evans, and Kalle Mattson.

Somewhere early on in her near-40-year career, she earned a law degree at the University of Ottawa and had a baby daughter who's expecting her first child this summer.

That's partly why she's leaving the NAC. She also has plans to travel with her husband — a retired sound engineer at the NAC's Southam Hall — and hang out with the couple's three dogs.

"I'm very happy and excited for NAC Presents because I think this five-year mark is an opportunity for someone else to come in and take it to the next five years."

The rest of the 2016-17 season will be unveiled this fall.



Simone Deneau, founder of NAC Presents series.
COURTESY RÉMI THÉRIAULT

MUSIC

Selena Gomez concert rescheduled for May 22
Pop singer Selena Gomez will arrive sooner than expected after the Toronto Raptors' NBA playoff run prompted some last minute rescheduling.

Gomez will now come to the Canadian Tire Centre on Sunday, May 22 instead of Wednesday, May 25, switching with the Toronto show so the Raptors can have the Air Canada Centre for their eastern conference finals.

She'll now bring Tyler Shaw to open for her in Ottawa instead of DNCE. Bea Miller will still open the show as planned.

Being the Victoria Day long weekend, not everyone is pleased. Fans were tweeting Monday they'll no longer be able to go. Canadian Tire Centre said it will honour all tickets purchased for the original date.

EMMA JACKSON/METRO

Liberals cagey on climate plan details

PROVINCE

Natural gas for heating to be phased out: Media report

Ontario's environment minister insists the province won't eliminate natural gas for home heating as part of an ambitious plan to fight climate change that will soon be released.

Glen Murray refused to confirm or deny a Globe and Mail report saying the province would spend $7 billion over four years to reduce its carbon footprint, partly by phasing out residential natural gas heating and greatly increasing the number of electric vehicles on the road.

The province's previously stated goal is to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 15 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020, 37 per cent by 2030 and 80 per cent by 2050.

The Globe said it obtained a copy of the 57-page Climate Change Action Plan and reported that it calls on the province to start phasing out natural gas for heating, which is currently used in 76 per cent of Ontario homes.

It said the government would spend $3.8 billion on grants, rebates and subsidies to retrofit buildings and move them off natural gas and onto geothermal, solar or other forms of electric heat. The plan would require that all new homes built in Ontario in 2030 or later be heated without the use of fossil fuels.

But Murray said this year's budget committed the government to extending natural gas to rural Ontario, and insisted it would still be an option for home heating. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Environment Minister Glen Murray. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CONSERVATION

Explore, and protect, forgotten streams

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority wants to give local volunteers the opportunity to get up close and personal with Ottawa's streams, and the tools to care for them.

With stream survey season — roughly June to September — approaching, the conservation group is looking for volunteers to join its City Stream Watch program and help monitor, protect and clean up the city's streams.

For those who are uninitiated, unsure or just unacquainted with hip waders, the program's organizers will host an orientation session at Andrew Haydon Park from 10 a.m. to noon on May 28.

"Overall it's a way to familiarize the volunteers," said City Stream Watch co-ordinator Justin Robert.

The program monitors 25 streams over a six-year rotation, and this year it will collect data on Brassils Creek, north of Merrickville, Graham Creek, in Nepean, Greens Creek, in Gloucester and McEwan Creek near Hunt Club Road east.

Volunteering typically involves wading into city streams to collect data including stream width, depth, flow, water temperature and chemistry, as well as making observations about habitats along stream shorelines, and sand, soil and rock conditions of riverbeds.

According to Robert, volunteers need not have any prior training in data collection or conservation and Rideau Valley Conservation Authority staff supervises each group session and supplies all of the tools needed for stream surveying.

As well as benefiting local plants and animals, Robert believes working with the city's sometimes forgotten creeks and streams teaches important lessons to the people involved.

"As an outreach and advocacy program, it really lets people know that you shouldn't just be throwing your garbage in (a stream) because it actually still is a valuable habitat," Robert said.

MEGAN DELAIRE/METROLAND MEDIA



City Stream Watch Program volunteers help out during an evening survey of Mosquito Creek last year. CONTRIBUTED

HEALTH

Organ donation rates on the rise in Ottawa



Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Forty-seven Ottawa residents gave the gift of life last year, and 35 per cent of us are registered to do the same when we die.

That's according to the new numbers from the Trillium Gift of Life Network, which co-ordinates organ and tissue donation in Ontario.

We beat the provincial rate of 29 per cent by six points. But we're far from the best: small northern Ontario communities have rates of 50 per cent or more, said network president Ronnie Gavsie.

Still, the Ottawa Hospital had 30 patients donate their organs in the 2015-16 fiscal year — 200 per cent more than two years ago. That put the hospital in the provincial top three with London and Hamilton. The Ottawa Heart Institute also saw its donor rate rise 143 per cent, with 17 patients donating tissue like eyes, bone, skin and heart valves.



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MJ Beauchamp is furious that VIA Rail has removed virtually all the trees behind her backyard, which she said provided shade and privacy from the tracks. EMMA JACKSON/METRO

VIA tree removal breaks local hearts

TRANSPORTATION

Rail company says cutting was needed to preserve safety



Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Residents of an east-end neighbourhood have lost a year-long battle to save the trees that hide unsightly train tracks from their backyards.

On Monday morning, a lone excavator systematically worked its way down the fence separating Eastway Gardens from the VIA Rail corridor, mulching a long thicket of brush, vegetation and fruit trees.

As the trees disappeared, so did the residents' shade, privacy and protection from passing trains, said resident MJ Beauchamp, who has been fighting the project for more than a year.

"What they've done today is completely destroyed our backyards," Beauchamp said. "I'm just heartbroken."

VIA Rail spokesperson Mariam Diaby said the Crown corporation is obligated under federal rules to control vegetation growing on its right-of-ways. Overgrown trees can block sightlines, drop branches onto the tracks or even cause fires, she said in an email.

The trees were supposed to be removed in April 2015, but VIA didn't give nearby residents any notice. When Beauchamp realized what was happening, she made the workers stop and got Coun. Jean Cloutier involved.

That June, VIA officials held a public meeting, where they told residents the contractors would only remove dead trees, Beauchamp's meeting minutes show.

Officials also said that contractors would remove dead trees by hand if necessary to protect the live trees overhanging into residents' backyards.

But on Monday, the excavator — with a large mulcher attached to its arm — seemed intent on clear-cutting: only a handful of mature trees remained by the end, and hundreds of live trees were mulched alongside the brush and grass.

Regardless, Diaby said in her email that "VIA Rail kept its promise" to preserve as many trees as possible.

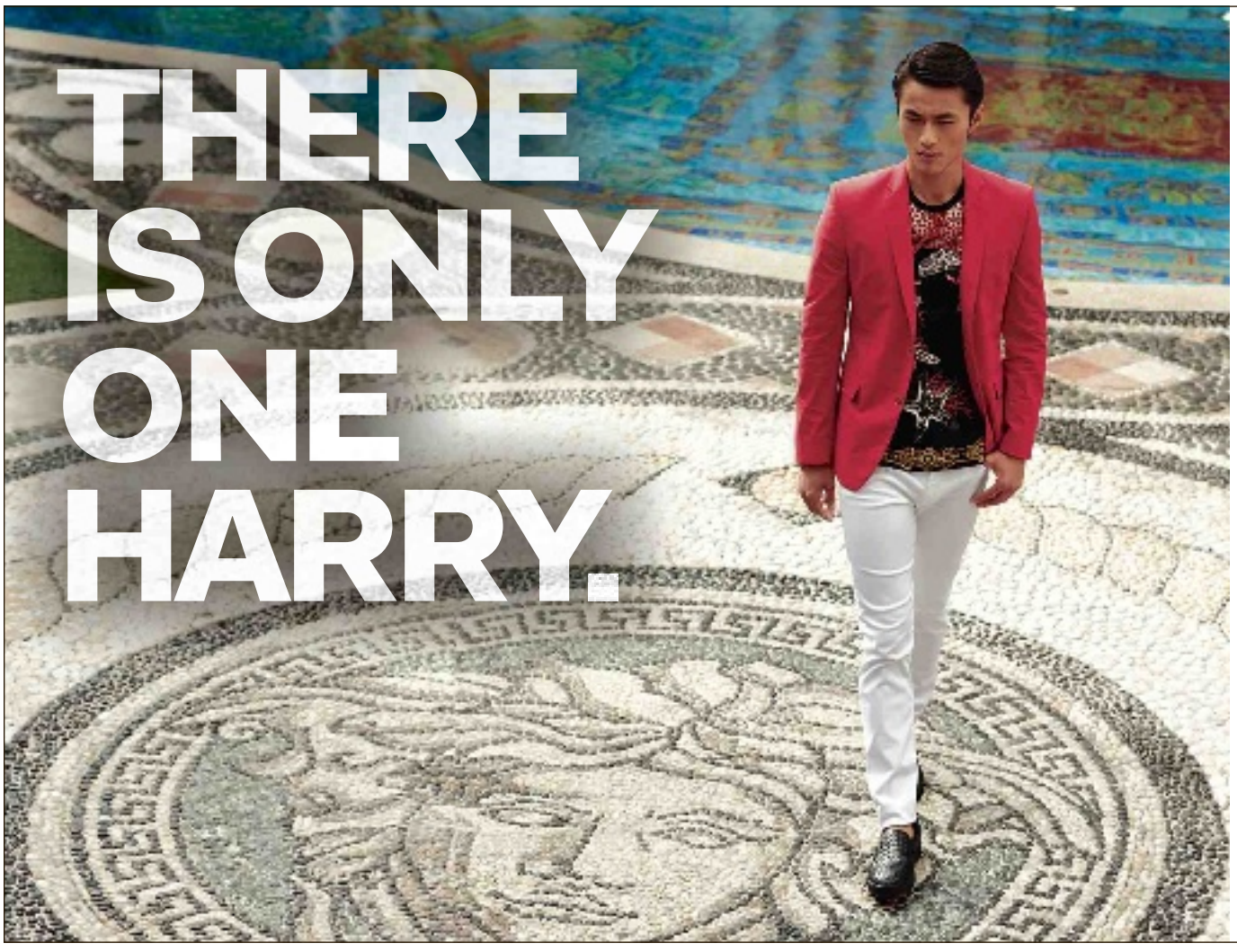
Beauchamp said she was offered vouchers to plant trees on her side of the fence, and was told VIA will replant "safe vegetation" on its side. VIA wouldn't say what that could be, but Beauchamp heard they will be cedars.

That's not ideal.

"They can take a long time to grow, and they'll have lots of bugs and mosquitoes in them, and they won't give us the shade," she said.

Cloutier said he understands the residents' frustration but has no power over VIA's property.

> **What they've done today is completely destroyed our backyards.**
> MJ Beauchamp



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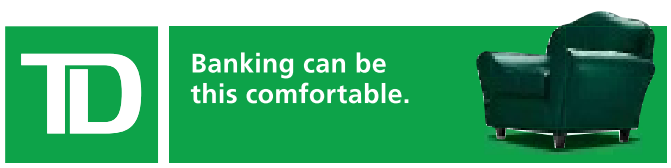
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SPACE STATION

This mission 'makes Canada much bigger'

Quebec engineer and doctor David Saint-Jacques says he's not entirely sure why he was chosen to become the next Canadian to work aboard the International Space Station - but he'll gladly accept the mission.

"They had to pick one of us," Saint-Jacques said when asked why he believed he was chosen over his co-astronaut-in-training Jeremy Hansen.

"I guess the important (thing) is that there are two space flights coming up for Canada. This is the first one and I'm looking forward for (Hansen) getting the next shot."

Saint-Jacques, 46, is scheduled to travel to space aboard the Russian Soyuz rocket for a six-month mission in November 2018.

"I promise to live up to your expectations," Saint-Jacques told a group of schoolchildren gathered Monday at an Ottawa museum, where Minister of Science and Innovation Navdeep Bains announced the assignment.

"A mission like this makes Canada much bigger."

Training for Saint-Jacques, who is a medical, engineering and astrophysics specialist, begins this summer in Canada, Russia, Japan and the United States.

Saint-Jacques said he was inspired to be an astronaut by the many Canadians who flew out of Earth's atmosphere before him.

"I stand on the shoulders of giants," he said. "The astronauts who have preceded me, they were my childhood inspiration, my colleagues and my mentors."

He'll become the ninth Canadian to travel to space, six of whom worked at the International Space Station. In all, Canadians have made 16 space flights to date.

"These men and women have captured our imagination, motivated us to work and study harder, and inspired us to be our best," said Bains.

Last year, the federal government announced that two Canadian astronauts would be going to the space station in the next decade — one by 2019 and one by 2024. Saint-Jacques and Hansen are the only two active members of the Canadian Astronaut Corps. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **The astronauts who have preceded me, they were my childhood inspiration, my colleagues and my mentors**
> David Saint-Jacques



Astronaut David Saint-Jacques was chosen to become the next Canadian to work aboard the ISS. THE CANADIAN PRESS



A fireball is visible as a wildfire rips through the forest by Highway 63, south of Fort McMurray, Alta on May 7. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wildfire threatens a dozen work camps

WOOD BUFFALO

Evacuation of 4,000 is a 'precautionary' measure

About 4,000 workers from camps north of Fort McMurray are being ordered to evacuate because of an approaching wildfire.

The Rural Municipality of Wood Buffalo calls it a "controlled precautionary evacuation" of 12 camps up to 26 kilometres north of the northern Alberta city.

The rural municipality says the fire is moving 30 to 40 metres per minute and is expected to burn six kilometres in two hours.

"This controlled, precautionary evacuation is an example why it is not safe to be in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo at this time," the municipality said late Monday afternoon in a news release.

Workers are being told to head south on Highway 63, but companies running some of the camps said their workers were going north.

Syncrude Canada tweeted that buses are transporting workers to a safe location as part of its emergency plan.

Sneh Seetal, a spokesman for Suncor Energy, called it a "precautionary measure."

"The facilities are not at risk," she said. "However, we felt it was important to take these steps in the interest of putting people first."

Eric Kraus, a spokesman for Clean Harbours, which runs the Ruth Lake camp, also called the move "precautionary."

"The fire we believe is about 35 kilometres away," he said. "There is a significant amount of smoke."

The entire population of Fort McMurray, more than 80,000 residents, are now entering their third week away from home.

AIR QUALITY

Earlier Monday, officials warned the air quality in the Fort McMurray area was dangerously poor.

Many of the work camps were used to house evacuated residents who fled north when fire broke through into the city the afternoon of May 3.

About 2,400 structures were destroyed in Fort McMurray, but essential infrastructure, including the hospital, water treatment plant and the airport, remain intact. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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EQUALITY

Transgender bill to be tabled

Legislation to extend human-rights protections to transgender Canadians will be tabled in the Commons on Tuesday, says Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Trudeau confirmed the news in Montreal on Monday as he received an award named after Laurent McCutcheon, a long-time gay-rights activist.

Tuesday happens to be International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.

"We must continue to demand true equality," Trudeau said. "We must carry on the legacy of those who fought for justice by being bold and ambitious in our actions and we must work diligently to close the gap between our principles and our reality."

> **We must continue to demand true equality.**
> PM Justin Trudeau

The Montreal MP said Canada must do more to fight homophobia and transphobia, mentioning that gay men still cannot donate blood in Canada.

Trudeau said he will also attend Montreal Pride this summer, "which is just a regular part of my summer schedule but a very first for a prime minister."

He also took the time to mention his father, former prime minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, who received the same award posthumously in 2005 and who was responsible for decriminalizing homosexuality in Canada.

Previous attempts at passing a transgender rights bill at the federal level have been unsuccessful. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Children hold placards as migrants and refugees take part in a peaceful protest at a refugee camp near the northern Greek border of Idomeni on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UN fund prioritizes refugee education

SCHOOL

New program aims to reach many of 20M displaced kids

Former British Prime Minster Gordon Brown on Monday announced the creation of the United Nations' first humanitarian fund for the education of refugee children.

Acting in his role as UN special envoy for global education, Brown said the fund hopes to reach many of the estimated 20 million school-age refugees and displaced persons around the globe who are being denied an education as part of "the largest population of displaced girls and boys since 1945."

Brown said the number of children who are missing out on schooling due to displacement is becoming a global crisis that will haunt the world for generations.

"When we ask ourselves what breaks the lives of once thriving young children, it's not just the Mediterranean wave that submerges the life vest and it's not just the food convoy that does not arrive in Syria, it's also the absence of hope — the soul-crushing certainty that there is nothing to plan or prepare for, not even a place in school," Brown said, speaking by telephone to reporters at the UN.

The initiative, entitled "Education Cannot Wait," will be formally launched at next week's World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul and seeks to raise $3.85 billion from some 100 donors in the public and private sectors over the next five years.

The initiative, which has been in the works for three years, was inspired by the refugee crisis in Syria, but funds will be available for refugees around the globe.

Brown said that the vast majority of people fleeing the war in Syria remain in the region, and if parents believed their children could get an education there, they would be more likely to stay in place, rather than undertake the risky passage to Europe. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Missouri doctors deliver baby after mother dies

Missouri doctors managed to deliver a baby whose mother was killed in a crash on her way to give birth. Sarah Iler and the baby's father, Matt Rider, were headed to a hospital in Poplar Bluff when his SUV was struck by a tractor trailer, according to reports. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISS makes 100,000th orbit

It's 100,000 laps around Earth and counting for the International Space Station. NASA said these 100,000 orbits are akin to travelling more than 2.6 billion miles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEALTH

Penis transplant is a first for U.S.

A cancer patient has received the first penis transplant in the United States, a Boston hospital said Monday.

Massachusetts General Hospital has confirmed that Thomas Manning received the transplanted penis in a 15-hour procedure last week.

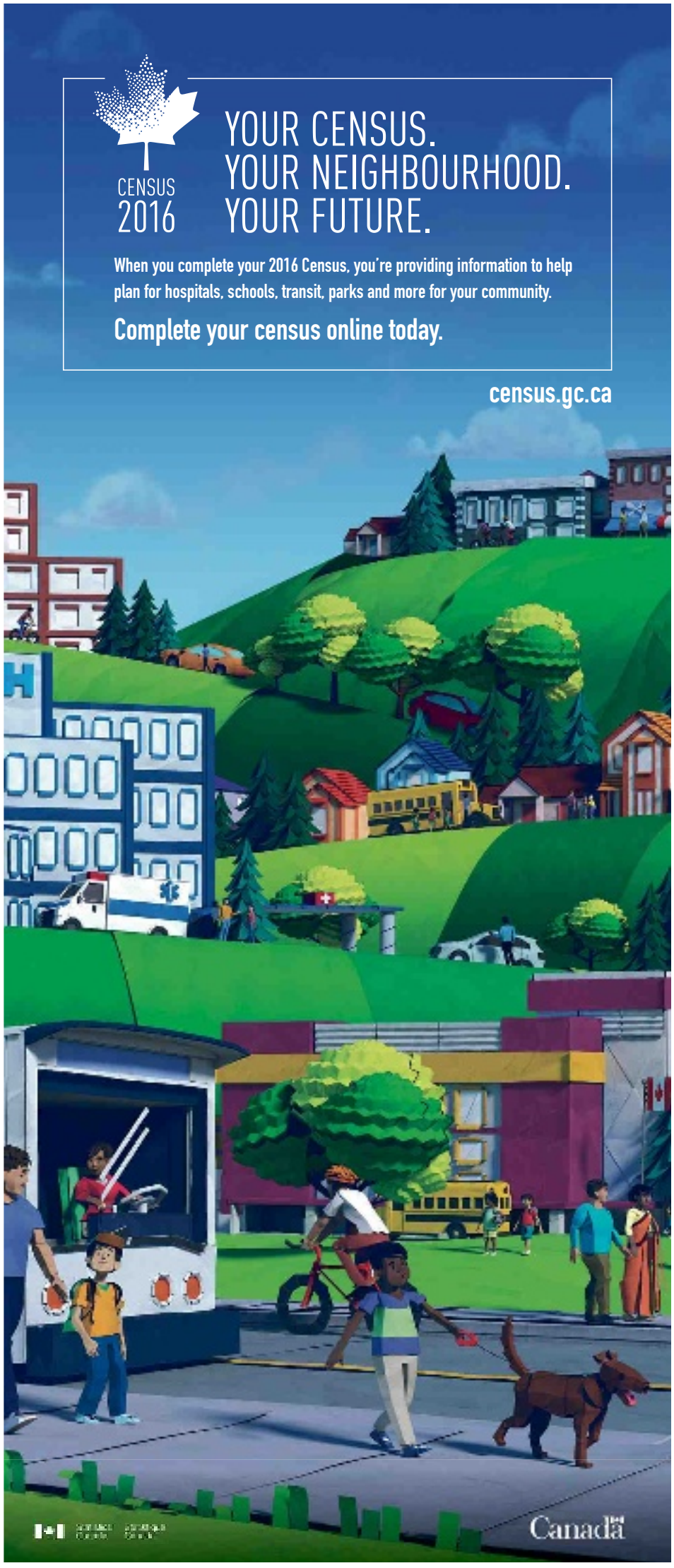
The New York Times first reported the transplant Monday.



Thomas Manning GETTY IMAGES

Dr. Curtis Cetrulo, who helped lead the surgical team, tells the newspaper that normal urination should be possible for the 64-year-old Manning in a few weeks, with sexual function possible in weeks to months.

The Times reports most of Manning's penis was removed during his battle with penile cancer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Trucking needs new blood

EMPLOYMENT

Industry struggling to attract young workforce



Truck driver Nadine Gauthier is working on behalf of Quebec's trucking association to encourage more women and girls to consider careers as truck drivers. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

After 40 years as a truck driver, Jack Fielding says it's easier to name the places in North America where he hasn't been than the ones he has.

And after driving five million kilometres, the 57-year-old still enjoys the freedom of the road.

But as Fielding and thousands like him near retirement age, the industry is struggling to recruit young people who share his enthusiasm for the job.

This means the industry is facing a looming labour shortage that could reach 48,000 drivers by 2024, according to the Canadian Trucking Alliance.

The average age of a truck driver is over 47 and almost 30 per cent of the driving force is 55 or over, which makes it one of the oldest workforces in Canada, according to the organization's president.

"Tens of thousands of them are nearing retirement and we're not getting anywhere near our commensurate share of new drivers into the business," says David Bradley.

There are multiple reasons for the looming shortage, but many believe the lifestyle simply isn't attractive to a younger generation.

Fielding, for example, usually works 10-14 days straight, with three days off between trips. Schedules are not set in advance, and drivers often work 12 hours or more a day.

"You're not home with your friends on Friday nights having parties," he says. "If you have a family you might miss out on birthdays and things like that."

Bradley says this makes it harder to attract younger people or those with families, who tend to place a higher emphasis on work-life balance than older generations. It may also explain why the industry struggles to recruit women, who make up only about four to six per cent of the driving population.

Nadine Gauthier, who spent six years driving shipping containers around the Montreal area, is trying to change that.

The 43-year old, now a supervisor for Simard Transport, also works on behalf of Quebec's trucking association to convince girls and women that trucking isn't just a "man's world."

She says that while the first women "pioneers" may have been given a hard time, the industry has become very welcoming to women.

The average salary for a truck driver was listed as $40,728 in 2011, although Bradley says long-haul truck drivers can easily make $70-80,000 a year.

However, they're often paid by the mile, which means their income can fluctuate based on unexpected delays or traffic. They also tend to work longer hours than the rest of the population.

It's also difficult to hire immigrants, except under the Temporary Foreign Worker program, since truck driving is not considered a skilled occupation and drivers therefore aren't eligible for most federal economic immigration programs.

Bradley believes long-term solutions are needed to ensure people who enter the profession stay there, instead of viewing it as a stop-gap between jobs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RETAIL

Amazon to expand offerings

Amazon is planning to expand the store-brand items it sells to new categories including food and household products, according to a report by The Wall Street Journal.

The new products could include nuts and spices and other consumer goods such as diapers.

The Wall Street Journal report cites unnamed people familiar with the matter. Amazon.com Inc. declined to comment.

Amazon already sells an array of private-label products, or products designed by a third-party manufacturer and sold under a retailer's name — usually cheaper than name-brand products — but food would be a new category.

It has been making a push into the grocery aisle, however. It offers Prime Fresh, a $299 annual grocery delivery service, in several cities on the West and East Coasts. Currently, the Amazon Basics line includes everything from patio furniture to office products. It also sells clothes under its labels Lark & Ro and Franklin & Freeman.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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Tuesday, May 17, 2016

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
ON THE BATHROOM-LAW CONTROVERSY

The "protect our little girls" argument allows some to equate their transgender neighbours with pedophiles, part of a larger narrative that trans people are to be feared.



Pity all the little boys in America.

Nobody, it seems, cares for them.

The raging debate over where transgender people get to go to the bathroom has made that fact, among others, abundantly clear.

Judging by the U.S. media fervour, it seems every reporter has been tasked with one goal: getting comment on the Obama administration's directive last week that all schools accommodate transgender students, including letting them use the bathrooms where they feel comfortable.

And for every microphone, there's been a call to save all the helpless girls of America. Take Ted Cruz's comments last month: "Have we gone stark raving nuts? Strangers shouldn't be alone in bathrooms with little girls."

Or this, from pastor Ron Baity in North Carolina, the state being sued by the federal government for a law that forces trans people to use the loo that coincides with the sex on their birth certificate: "He could be there to look at the anatomy of the opposite sex," Baity said, imagining a predator masquerading as transgender. "He could be there to bring damage to a young girl."

Like everyone else fuelling the uproar, he didn't bother to fear for the sexual safety of little boys. There are two reasons for this. The first is the sexist, and still widespread, idea that females are weaker and in need of more protection. The second is that people like Baity are simply anti-trans and are using their condescending concern for girls' welfare as cover.

Treating people with respect and dignity shouldn't have to be legislated.



THE CANADIAN APPROACH Prime Minister Justin Trudeau listens as he is presented with the 2016 Laurent McCutcheon Award for his commitment to fighting homophobia and transphobia, in Montreal on Monday. Trudeau later announced he would table legislation today aimed at protecting transgender rights. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"What gets socially coded as fear is often just masked transphobia," Sheila Cavanagh, professor of gender and sexuality studies at York University, told the New Yorker this week. "People know that it's less acceptable to be transphobic than it is to say, 'I worry about the safety of my daughter.'" She also called the fear of fake transgender predators "far-fetched" and without evidence. Far better documented, she added, is discrimination against transgender people trying to use a restroom.

The "protect our little girls" argument also allows some to equate their transgender neighbours with pedophiles, part of a larger narrative that transgender people are to be feared. During On Point, a national radio call-in show last week, one man told the story of a transgender woman using a woman's changeroom this way: "They were just petrified, all ages, this big hairy guy walking around as if he had every right to do so."

We shouldn't be surprised that bathrooms are causing all this stir. They are a single point of public nudity in a culture that is terrified of its own genitalia and sexuality. And they have a history of being used for sexual fear-mongering, including in the racially segregated U.S. South, as Diane Ravitch noted in the Huffington Post.

Then, women's sexual vulnerability was invoked as cover for race-baiting. Now, for gender-baiting.

In keeping with the cliché, the deregulation of bathroom spaces in Canada has been quieter. The Vancouver School Board, the Toronto School Board, and the entire province of Alberta have all moved to allow transgender students to exercise their washroom choice, and some are adding more gender-neutral bathrooms. Many universities have similar policies. And while there has been some backlash (two Vancouver school trustees worried about scaring off international students), there's been little American-style drama.

At the heart of these changes is a recognition of the unique prejudices and discrimination faced by the transgender community. The Obama administration is trying to tackle that by reinterpreting the U.S.'s existing sex-discrimination laws in a way that addresses gender-identity issues.

In Canada, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has decided a whole new bill is in order. Yesterday, he announced legislation to protect transgender Canadians from violence, hate speech and discrimination by adding "gender identity" as a protected category under the Canadian Human Rights Act. The legislations is expected to be tabled today to mark the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.

It is a move whose importance cannot be overstated.

But treating people with respect and dignity shouldn't have to be legislated. It's common sense. So, too, are toilets everyone can use. It's not even a new idea. I had gender-neutral bathrooms in my elementary school classroom in the 1990s. I was a little girl.

And guess what, Ted Cruz? I was just fine.

What if a low-income transit-pass discount gave us all a break?

COLLINS' CAPITAL
Steve Collins



Logistically, giving Ottawa's poorest transit riders a break with a low-income pass would be easy enough.

According to a report tabled at transit commission last week, you'd apply to OC Transpo with proof you're under the low-income cutoff (LICO), spending a significantly greater than average proportion of your income on food, shelter and other basics. A week later, you'd get a pass at a 62 per cent discount.

The tricky part is money. This discount would cost an estimated $3.3 million in foregone revenue that OC Transpo, which ran an $11-million deficit last year, can ill afford.

Faced with the unpopular solutions of either taking the money from property taxes or bumping up other transit fares, the transit commission last week agreed to try passing the bill to Queen's Park.

Social services, after all, are a provincial responsibility, a category into which means-tested transit subsidies would neatly fit. So, we can by all means ask for the money. And they can say no.

And even as we try to square our tight little funding circle, more trouble appears on the horizon from Toronto.

Metrolinx, provider of our Presto payment system, currently skims two per cent of electronic fare revenue to operate those green boxes, but that agreement's expiring, and they're looking for a bigger piece of the action, likely increasing the cost of everyone's ride. How much of a cut they're looking for hasn't been officially disclosed, but some reports indicate it could be as high as 10 per cent of fares.

That would be a dirty trick on a captive audience. Not only has Ottawa gone all in on Presto, but we were pressured to do so in order to qualify for an expected $36-million annual share of provincial gas tax.

We haven't even collected that much the past couple of years because the deal depends in part on transit-ridership figures, which have lately been merely stable after successive years of decline. And OC Transpo predicts flat numbers again this year.

What to do? Maybe start looking at the low-income pass as an investment rather than charity.

According to the city report, about 31,000 current transit users qualify as low-income, and 22,000 already get a discount. Giving the remaining 9,000 or so a break would cost the aforementioned $3.3 mil.

But those 31,000 riders are but a fraction of the estimated 145,000 of our citizens who scrape by under the LICO. Maybe, for those 100,000-plus outstanding low-income people who don't take the bus, price is a factor?

If steeply discounted fares attracted new riders, the resulting bonus revenue could partially offset the subsidy's cost. The extra passengers would also goose OC Transpo's ridership numbers and, by extension, our gas tax payout.

We need to find the initial $3.3 million somewhere.

Right now, it's coming from the riders who can least afford it.

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Your essential daily news



Jolie 'disheartened' by U.S. response to migrant crisis, criticizes Donald Trump

Mistaking codependency for kindness and caring

RELATIONSHIPS

Beware when selflessness becomes selfish and irritating

Katrina Clarke
Torstar News Service

One of the defining moments in Michael DeCorte's life came in 2003 after visiting a sick friend in the hospital.

"When I was at her bedside, I thought to myself, 'It's a good thing I'm here right now because I look like a good friend,'" he said, noting he valued this woman because she was cool and beautiful. "(Being there) secured the friendship."

The friend called bulls—t. He was there to make himself feel better, not her, she said.

DeCorte identifies as a recovering addict of "codependent friendships," a term describing relationships in which one person regularly performs acts intended to earn approval from others, validating their own self-worth and avoiding conflict. Experts say it's a learned emotional and behavioural condition, more common among women, that can impede people from forming balanced relationships, but is not necessarily unhealthy.

Comedian and actress Whitney Cummings put a spotlight on the issue in a December article for Elle magazine and newsletter-slash-website Lenny Letter, in which she self-identified as codependent.

"Essentially, if I drive you to the airport because you can't afford a taxi and I expect nothing in return, that's benevolent," she writes.

"But if I drive you to the airport secretly hoping you'll like me, owe me, won't abandon me down the line, or to control your perception of me (i.e., I want you to think I'm nice), that's codependent."

In the article, Cummings details prioritizing buying expensive candles for friends over paying rent, helping mend friends' broken hearts when she didn't have time to floss, and focusing so intently on helping sick family members, she once contracted pneumonia without noticing.

"There's nothing wrong with being kind," said Darlene Lancer, a California-based marriage and family therapist and author of Codependency for Dummies.

"But if you feel like you'd rather not but you don't feel like you can say no … then maybe it's a behaviour pattern, it's not coming from a place of conscious choice."

Lancer said examples of codependent friendships might include one friend often buying the other gifts without the gift-giving being reciprocated, regularly giving advice and feeling angry when the advice isn't followed, or feeling too guilty to say no to requests. But it's not necessarily harmful.

"It doesn't always create unhappiness," said Lancer. "In some older generation (couples) … the wife always does what her husband wants. She doesn't have much of a separate personality but it doesn't bother her because this is all she's known, or it's part of their religious or cultural ethos."

In fact, Lancer calls codependency "rampant" in modern society, but says codependent relationships have long been around.

As women became more independent and society shirks patriarchal norms, codependent relationships were deemed problematic, she said.

Lancer points to childhood incidents or trauma to explain how the behaviour is learned; bullying at school, parental discord — especially if one parent starts relying on the child for support — or sibling abuse can all contribute, she said.

So how do experts say one can unlearn codependency in friendships?

"Counselling," said Candace Plattor, an addiction therapist based in Vancouver, who considers codependency an addiction. People who suspect they have codependent tendencies need to reflect on what is causing their behaviour, she said.

As for Michael DeCorte, a recovering addict, he suspects when his addictions were rooted in insecurity and self-centeredness. Once he gave up drugs and alcohol 15 years ago, he latched on to the next best thing to feed his needs — friendships.

And that sick friend who called him out? She dumped him as a friend, disinvited him from her wedding and left him in shambles.

But once the dust settled, he regrouped.

Through work with psychotherapists and mentors, he now realizes popular friends won't give him the self-confidence or validation he craved.

SIGNS YOU MAY BE CODEPENDENT

Think you might be too reliant on your friends? Here are some red flags from Candace Plattor, an addiction therapist and author of Loving an Addict, Loving Yourself: The Top 10 Survival Tips for Loving Someone with an Addiction.

You're constantly giving in your friendships without getting much in return.

You often feel you're not as good as other people so you "play small" and make others' needs more important than your own.

You are extremely uncomfortable with confrontation; even when you feel disappointed, angry or resentful, you don't admit this to your friends because they might become upset or angry with you.

You attempt to convince yourself your problems are not that bad, rather than trying to change the dysfunctional dynamics in your friendships.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Michael DeCorte, left, identifies as a recovering addict of codependent friendships. He meets his friend Liam McElheron for yoga in Toronto. J.P. MOCZULSKI/ FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



NEW BOOK

The power of close friendship

Are you craving intimacy in your life? If so, it's probably not just the romantic kind, according to friendship expert Shasta Nelson. In her new book Frientimacy: How to Deepen Friendships for Lifelong Health and Happiness, Nelson talks about how to have lasting, life-changing relationships with your friends. We chatted with Nelson about what it takes to develop that sort of bond.

In your book, you talk about an intimacy gap many of us feel in our friendships. What is that, exactly?
It's the gap between what we wish we were experiencing in friendships and what we're currently experiencing. It speaks to the fact that we all know a ton of people — it's not a lack of a social life — but we're not feeling that our friendships are deep or fulfilling enough.

Women are juggling busy careers, raising kids, spending time with their partners and maintaining friendships. Can they really have it all?
It's a great question. Women can't have it all at the same time, and we have to choose. We can't allow friendships to be a nice-to-have at the end if we get everything else done and have time. We're biologically wired to have friendships in our lives — it should be a top priority!

If you could offer one key piece of friendship advice based on your research for the book, what would it be?
I would say: Initiate the connection that you're craving with your friendships. If you want more meaningful relationships, it's in your hands.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Shasta Nelson
COURTESY GUDMUNDUR IBSEN



CANNES FILM FESTIVAL ETHIOPIAN-IRISH ACTRESS RUTH NEGGA stars in Loving, a biracial love story based off true events that led to imprisonment, exile and ultimately exoneration in a 1967 U.S. Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality. "I fell deeply in love with Mildred and Richard and their story. I think we all just wanted to do them justice," she said of the couple. The Lovings were humble, reluctant heroes whose marriage was famously photographed in Life magazine with the headline "The Crime of Being Married." CIRONNEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





metro SPORTS



The Los Angeles Angels are reportedly close to signing Tim Lincecum, a two-time Cy Young winner trying to come back from hip surgery

No rest for the weary

RAPTORS
EAST FINAL PREVIEW

Fresh Cleveland team awaits battered Toronto club

It was a seven-game drag 'em out series that featured a slew of injuries and had coach Dwane Casey comparing it to a boxing match.

And now, just two days after finally knocking out the Miami Heat in a gruelling NBA Eastern Conference semifinal, the Toronto Raptors take the court against the well-rested Cavaliers.

The Raptors tip off their first-ever conference final on Tuesday in Cleveland, against a Cavs team that has enjoyed a nine-day break.

"You always take rest over rust in the playoffs," Casey said. "I've never been with a team that's had nine days off. Hopefully they're a little rusty and game-rusty. But sooner or later, that rest is going to kick in and be a plus for them.

"We have to go in with our guns a-blazing, playing hard and playing to our identity, and let the chips fall where they may."

The Raptors went the full seven games in each of the first two rounds of the playoffs, capped by their thrilling 116-89 victory over Miami on Sunday.

Top-ranked Cleveland has yet to lose in the post-season, sweeping Detroit and then Atlanta.

The Raptors have recent history on their side. They won the regular-season series against the Cavs 2-1, and saw big games from Kyle Lowry. Toronto's scrappy point guard averaged 31 points on 66 per cent shooting, and had the highest player efficiency rating of anyone who played at least 10 minutes a game against the Cleveland in the regular season.

But the post-season has been costly. Toronto lost starting centre Jonas Valanciunas to a badly sprained ankle in Game 3 against Miami. Casey confirmed he won't play in Game 1 and is unlikely to return for Game 2.

The Lithuanian big man is still limping badly, making it tough to see him returning at all in this series.

"I'd like to see (Valanciunas return), I'm not committing to it," Casey said. "Just have to see how his body reacts, comes through rehab. To cancel him out for the entire series, I don't know."

Without the starting centre's post-up presence, the Raptors will have their hands full with Canadian Tristan Thompson and Timofey Mozgov.

DeMar DeRozan is also battling a thumb injury that requires wrapping during every timeout to relieve the swelling by the team's sport science guru Alex McKechnie and his famous red shoelace.

DeMarre Carroll, who was acquired last summer for his defensive intensity, was huge in containing Dwyane Wade and Joe Johnson in Toronto's do-or-die Game 7. But he faces a mammoth task in containing Cavs star LeBron James. He also missed more than half the season with a knee injury, and then sprained a wrist in Game 5 against Miami.

"He's still kind of feeling his way as we go offensively, but his hustle, his hard play, his timely three-point shots are a big part of what we need and why we signed him," Casey said. "He's exactly what we need at that position, to guard some of the power threes in this league." THE CANADIAN PRESS



Raptors forward Patrick Patterson defends against Cavaliers point guard Kyrie Irving on Feb. 26. The Raptors won two of three games against the Cavs this season. CLAUS ANDERSEN/GETTY IMAGES



77

The Cavs hit 77 threes in their four-game sweep of Atlanta. The Raptors, on the other hand, were second last in defending the three in the regular season.

J.R. Smith

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Jays' skip upset with timing of plunking

It's not the retribution that bothers John Gibbons, it's the timing.

The Blue Jays manager addressed media on Monday afternoon, a day after Toronto all-star right-fielder Jose Bautista was hit in the ribs by a pitch from Texas reliever Matt Bush and then punched in the face by Rangers second baseman Rougned Odor after a hard slide on the basepaths.

Bush's throw was apparently in retribution for Bautista's dramatic bat flip after a home run in Game 5 of the American League Division Series last season. The two teams had played in two three-game series this season before Sunday's bench-clearing brawl.

"I think everyone in here did what they think is right to protect our guy.
Blue Jays centre-fielder Kevin Pillar

"It didn't happen what, the first six games?" said Gibbons in his office ahead of Monday's game with the Tampa Bay Rays. "My only complaint was that if you've got an issue with someone, we get that, everyone views things differently, and if you're going to do something, hey, that's part of it, we get it.

"But I figured you might do it right away. Then you've got six more games for things to play out the way they're going to play out."

Instead, the Rangers and Blue Jays won't play again this year, unless they meet in the post-season. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Adrian Beltre holds Jose Bautista back during Sunday's dustup. GETTY IMAGES

WORLD HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

Canada flawless through six games

Canada downed France 4-0 Monday at the world hockey championship, setting up a winner-take-all matchup with Finland for first place in Group B.

Calvin Pickard made 13 saves to pick up a shutout as Canada improved its record to 6-0, tied for first place in the group with the Finns at 18 points.

Canada and Finland meet Tuesday in the final round-robin game for both teams. The winner will face the fourth-place team from Group A in the quarter-finals.

Preliminary round

CANADA	FRANCE
4	0

In Group A action, host Russia recorded its fifth straight victory with a 3-0 win over Norway to move into a tie with the Czech team for first place with 15 points. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Woods 'progressing nicely'
Tiger Woods says he's "progressing nicely" in his return from two surgeries on his back but he's still not sure when he'll return to competitive golf.

"If I knew, I'd tell, you, because it'd be fun to know," said Woods, 40, who last played in August.

On Monday, Woods took on ceremonial duties for his upcoming Quicken Loans National and found the water on each of his three tee shots on the par-3 10th hole. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Towns unanimously voted rookie of year

Minnesota Timberwolves centre Karl-Anthony Towns is the unanimous winner of the NBA Rookie of the Year award.

The league made the announcement Monday, giving the Wolves back-to-back honorees after forward Andrew Wiggins won the Eddie Gottlieb Trophy last season. The seven-foot Towns received all 130 first-place votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters in the United States and Canada.

New York's Kristaps Porzingis finished second, and Denver's Nikola Jokic was third.



Karl-Anthony Towns
GETTY IMAGES

The 20-year-old Towns averaged 18.1 points, 10.7 rebounds and 1.7 blocks, helping the Timberwolves win 13 more games than the season before. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Turkey and Sweet Potato Skillet Dinner



PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI



Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

The marriage of savoury turkey and sweet potato is definitely charmed but it's the topping of gooey mozzarella that makes this easy dinner perfect.

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 lb ground turkey
- 1 onion, diced
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 1/2 Tsps chili powder
- 1 1/2 cups yellow pepper, diced
- 1 1/2 cups sweet potato, peeled and diced
- salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup mozzarella, grated

Directions

1. In a large, oven-safe skillet, brown your turkey over medium heat, breaking it up as you heat it. Cook for about 5 minutes. Add onions and garlic and cook for another 5 minutes. Sprinkle the chili powder over top and give it all a good stir.

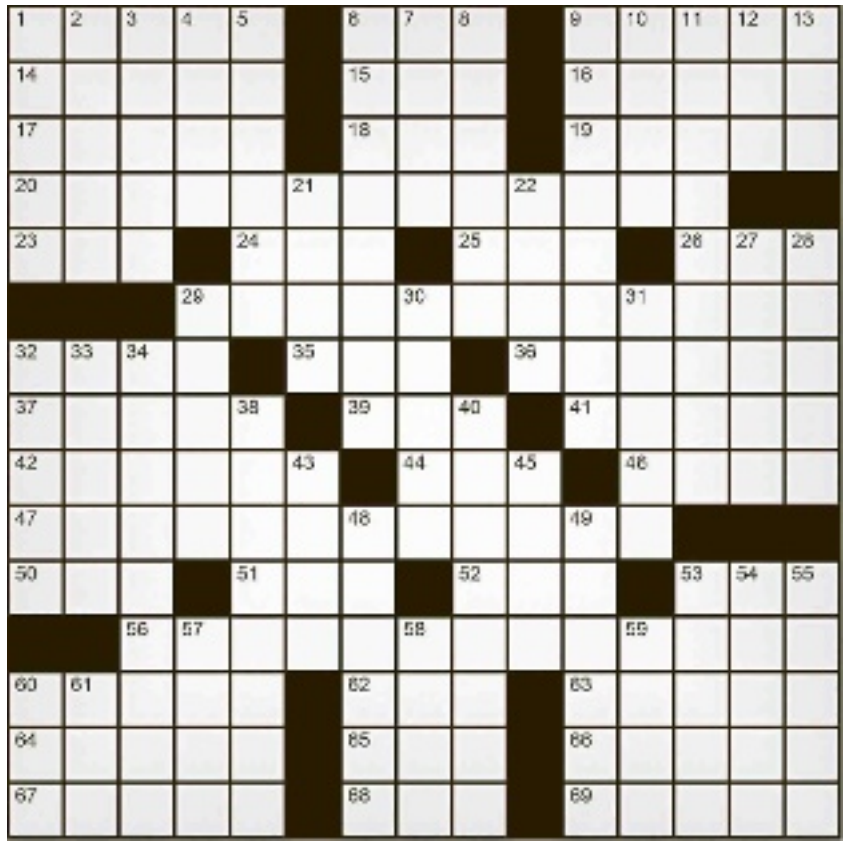
2. Add the yellow pepper and allow to soften for another 3 minutes. Stir in sweet potatoes, cover and cook for about 10 minutes. Stir occasionally and add a bit of water if things dry out. Check to see that sweet potatoes are tender. Add salt and pepper to taste.

3. Sprinkle the grated cheese over top. Turn broiler on. Place the skillet under the heat for a minute or two — watch it! — until the cheese melts and just starts to brown. Remove carefully from the oven and serve.

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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Mr. Chipmunk of novelty tunes
6. Towel holder
9. __ __ the toy, as a kitten
14. Songstress Ms. Lewis
15. Prefix with 'dermis'
16. Figure of speech
17. Cordiality
18. Blokes
19. Skincare brand
20. She stars as Jason Priestley's character's wife on new Family Channel comedy "Raising Expectations": 2 wds.
23. __ _ break
24. Latin: At the age of [abbr.]
25. Prince William's li'l brother
26. Tip to 'doo'
29. 1986 movie starring the actress at #20-Across: 3 wds.
32. Italian actress, Virna __
35. "Phooey!"
36. Gas tank filler
37. Music: Speed up gradually, briefly
39. "__. _ & the Women" (2000)
41. Mediterranean island
42. "Hero" singer Ms. Carey
44. Poet mr. cummings, et al.
46. Prezzes
47. "Beverly Hills, 90210" character played by the Vancouver-born star at #20-Across: 2 wds.
50. School yr. part
51. Caesar's 56
52. "Lady Marmalade" co-singer
53. French 'friend'
56. The actress at #20-Across served detention in this 1985 hit flick, with The: 2 wds.
60. Los Angeles, __.
62. Traditional tree
63. Presses
64. Guitarist, Lenny __ (b.1941 - d.1984)
65. Alkali
66. "Open __" (2003) directed by Kevin Costner
67. Certain carpeting
68. Ireland's __ Lingus
69. Prod: 2 wds.

DOWN
1. Western starring Canadian actor Glenn Ford, "The Man from the __" (1953)
2. Fruit wedge
3. "Presto!"
4. Airport designation, e.g.
5. "The Big Bang Theory" star Kunal
6. Paid
7. Receptive
8. Small inflatable boat
9. 19th-century circus legend: initials + surname
10. Botanical casing
11. Kawartha Lakes community in Ontario
12. Pre-May mo.
13. Jeans top
21. Coral formation
22. Oliver Twist, for one
27. Two down, __ __ go...
28. Gumbo ingredients
29. __ __ the face (Slapstick maneuver)
30. Flung
31. Fuzzy fruit
32. Clarice Starling's flock
33. "Why should _ __?"
34. Jumbles
38. Soup serving amount
40. Preparer of Orange Pekoe: 2 wds.
43. Jay Z's "Izzo (_._._.)"
45. Mr. Stallone, et al.
48. Electrical pioneer Mr. Tesla
49. Form of comedy
53. Sing-__
54. "In the Summertime" by __ Jerry
55. A Doll's House dramatist
57. US music trade org.
58. Ms. Dunaway
59. Rugged cliff
60. "Survivor" station
61. Mr. Onassis, tiny-ly

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a day for serious, practical discussions with partners, spouses and close friends. People want to strategize how things should be done in the future.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will accomplish a lot at work today because you're motivated. It's easy to put duty and obligations before play and fun.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Romantic partners might discuss the division of labour or how to share expenses. This is because you are in a practical frame of mind and ready to address these issues.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Someone older, perhaps a family member, might have practical advice for you today. Why not stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before you?

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Whatever work you do today, you will do carefully with attention to detail. This is because you want things to be more orderly in your life. Too much helter-skelter is draining!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
With cash flow, you will be practical today. You will not buy frivolous items. Whatever you buy will be long-lasting and useful — for sure.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Today the Moon is in your sign, dancing with Saturn. This makes duty, orderliness and hard work a priority. (Work hard, party hard!)

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Research of any kind will go well today because you have the motivation to go after what you're looking for. You will pay attention to detail and maintain a steady focus.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Ask advice from someone older, perhaps a friend. Whatever this person says might affect your attitude toward your future goals.

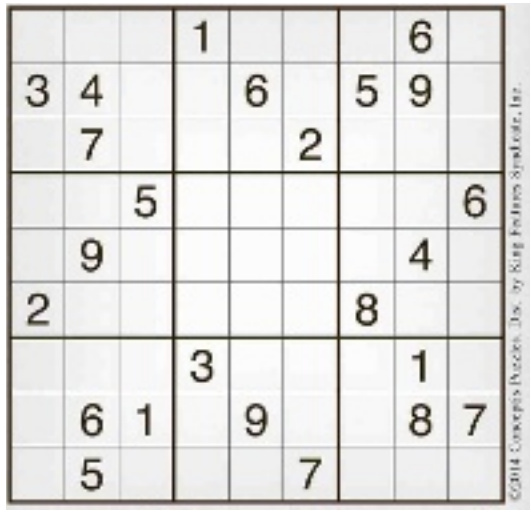
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
A discussion with a boss, parent or someone in a position of authority will go well today because you will respect what he or she has to say.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a good day to make travel plans or plans for future education. Work related to publishing, the media, medicine and the law will be productive because you mean business.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Tie up loose ends about taxes, debt, insurance issues and inheritance today, because you have the frame of mind to do this. You won't overlook details.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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7	6	3	2	9	8	1	4	5
4	1	8	6	7	5	2	9	3
5	9	2	4	3	1	7	6	8
3	2	4	8	1	6	9	5	7
6	8	7	9	5	2	3	1	4
9	5	1	7	4	3	8	2	6
2	4	9	5	8	7	6	3	1
8	3	5	1	6	9	4	7	2
1	7	6	3	2	4	5	8	9

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